(ii) exploration and assessment of both living and non-living resources of the EEZ and a National Marine Information Service as an aid to their rational exploitation and management.

(iii) harnessing energy from sea waves.

(iv) semi-intensive acquaculture in brackishwater coastal areas

Additionally some research projects of more basic nature have also been initited towards producing new drugs and chemicals from the sea Commercial exploitation of fishery resources, hydro carbons and other mineral resources of the ocean, are also being supported by progeessively expanding the knowledge bases relating to oceanic domains.

All India Radio and Doordarshan Programmes in Indian Languages

1372. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the criteria for an Indian language for geting permission for use in the programmes of Akashvani or Doordarshan;

(b) what is the number of Indian languages in which programmes of Akashvani or Doordarshan are executed, and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Stations of All India Radio and all pogramme producing regional kendras of Doordarshan broadcast/telecast programmes in the principal language spoken in their programme zones. Broadcast/telecast in other languages depends upon the communication imperative, size of the population speaking that particular language, and availability of transmission time.

(b) All India Radio broadcasts programmes in 19 Idndian languages whereas Doordarshan is telecasting programmes in 13 Indian languages.

(c) The details are given in the statement (*See* below)

Statement

Languages in which programmes of AIR are broadcast

1. Assamese
2. Bengali
3 Gujarati
4 Hindi
5 Kannada
6. Kashmiri
7 Malayalam
8 Marathi
9 Oriya
10 Punjabi
11. Sanskrit
12. Sindhi
13. Tamil
14. Telugu
15. Urdu
16 Nepali
17 Dogri
18 Manipuri
19 Konkani

major Indian languages used in the telecast of Doordarshan programmes

1. Assamese
2. Bengali
3. Gujarati

4. Hindi
5. Kannada
6. Kashmiri
7 Marathi
8 Malayalam
9 Oriya
10 Punjabi
11. Tamil
12. Telugu
13 Urdu

In addition, some of the Doordarshan Kendras also telecast programmes in Konkani, Sindhi, Sanskrit, Dogri, Himachali, Gojri, and Nepali.

Welfare Programmes For Former/ Retired Soldiers

1373. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state what are the welfare programmes taken by Government for former/ retired soldiers and for the families of handicapped or martyred soldiers so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI LALIT VIJAY SINGH): There is a comprehensive package of resettlement and welfare measures for the ex-Servicemen. The Central Government has provided reservation for ex-Servicemen in Group 'C' and Group 'D' posts in Central Government Departments, as well as Public Sector Undertaking, including the Nationalised Banks. Defence Services personnel who have been disabled either in war or in peace time and whose disability is attributable to military service, are accorded Priority-I, while upto two dependants of Defence Services personnel killed/ disabled in action including war widows, are entitled to Priority-II (A) (disabled with over 50 per cent disability/and unfit for employment, but disability attributable to military service), for purposes of employment under Central Government, against Groups 'C' and 'D' posts. Most State Governments have also provided for reservation in Civil posts, in varying degrees, in favour of the ex-Servicemen. Besides, a number of schemes are in existence to provide self-employment opportunities to ex-Servicemen. These include the SEMFEX-I scheme which provides financial assistance to ex-Servicemen for setting up small industrial projects; the SEMFEX-II scheme to encourage ex-Servicemen to take up gainful farm and non-farm activities in rural areas; allotment of Petroleum product agencies; allotment of Unit Trust of India agencies; transportation agencies for coal and petroleum products; price subsidy to ex-Servicemen for small scale industrial units for products supplied to Defence Establishments, etc.

Ex-Servicemen are authorised free medical facility in military hospitals and canteen facilities at the nearest CSD canteens. Two hundred twenty five Sainik Rest Houses are in existence at different places all over the country to enable ex-Servicemen to stay for short duration.

Chilren of defence personnel killed or disabled in action are entitled to feee educational facilities such as fees, hostel carges, cost of uniform, etc. Seventy five per cent concession in rail fare for travel in second class is given to all war widows. The recipients of gallantry awards are given 50% concession for air and rail travel in second class. Twenty six War Memorial Hostels have been constructed in various Regimental Centres for providing accommodation towards of war widows,